# PELLETTIERI RABSTEIN & ALTMAN

**COUNSELLORS AT LAW** 

John A. Hartmann, Ill Andrew M. Rockman Bruce P. Miller Edward Slaughter, Jr. Neal S. Solomon Gary E. Adams Thomas R. Smith Thomas G. McMahon Lydia Fabbro Keephart Jeffrey S. Monaghan Andrew L. Watson Bruce H. Zamost Sherri L. Warfel Peter J. Classetti

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September 6, 2016

Nicole J. Huckerby Elyse C. Herman Kendall W. Medway Jennifer R. Haythorn Barry Dratch Tara L. Johnson Jillian A. Frost Lara L. Wanio Bhaveen R. Jani

Counsel W. Barry Rank Kristen J. Vidas

Richard Altman (Retired)
Ira C. Miller (Retired)
Arthur Penn (Retired)
Anne P. McHugh (Retired)
Jed S. Kadish (Retired)
George Pellettieri (1929-1980)
Ruth Rabstein (1934-2005)
George L. Pellettieri (1961-1973)
Mel Narol (1989-2002)
Steven H. Morland, Jr. (2006-2012)

VIA EMAIL ONLY

Jeff S. Jordan, Esq. Federal Election Commission Washington, DC 20463

**RE:** MUR 7028

Dear Mr. Jordan:

In reference to the above matter, kindly accept this correspondence on behalf of Plumbers and Pipefitters Local Union No. 9 ("Local 9"), and Local 9's Industry Advancement Fund ("IAF") and Political Action Committee ("PAC") in Response to the complaint filed by Rupert Baptiste with the Federal Election Commission. Local 9 shall rely upon the attached Certification of Michael Maloney and the attachments thereto.

With respect to Mr. Baptiste's March 2016 complaint, Local 9 disputes the contents of this complaint with the exception of the statement that "[o]ther members have gone to the Union and requested their money be returned and they have been successful." This is accurate and Local 9 has reimbursed other members that have made these requests just as it would have done with Mr. Baptiste had Local 9 received such a request from Mr. Baptiste.

As noted in Mr. Maloney's certification, the receipt of Mr. Baptiste's complaint from the Federal Election Commission was the first notice that Local 9 received from or on behalf of Mr. Baptiste requesting reimbursement of the contributions made to the IAF and PAC. Local 9 will honor Mr. Baptiste's request and provide reimbursement from the date it received the request for reimbursement or effective March 29, 2016. However, given that Mr. Baptiste filed a complaint and the matter remains pending before this



Commission, Local 9 shall provide reimbursement in a manner satisfactory to the Commission so that this matter may be concluded and closed.

Should you have any questions regarding this Response, please feel free to contact me.

Verystruly yours,

PELLETTIERI, RABSTEIN & ALTMAN

MATSON, ESQ

ALW/ac

cc: Michael K. Maloney, Business Manager (via email only)

ANDREW L. WATSON, ESQUIRE
PELLETTIERI, RABSTEIN & ALTMAN
100 Nassau Park Blvd., Suite 111
Princeton, New Jersey 08540
Phone (609) 5200-0900, Fax (609) 452-8796
Attorneys for Plumbers and Pipefitters
Local 9, Local 9 Political Action Committee
and Local 9 Industry Advancement Fund

In the Matter of Rupert Baptiste

#### FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

MATTER NO.: MUR 7028

CERTIFICATION OF MICHAEL MALONEY

- I, Michael Maloncy of full age, hereby certify:
- 1. I am the Business Manager of Plumbers and Pipefitters Local Union No. 9, (hereinafter Local 9), a position I have held for approximately 13 years. I make this certification in support of the Response to the complaint filed by Rupert Baptiste with the Federal Election Commission.
- 2. On or about March 29, 2016, I received notice from the Federal Election
  Commission, dated March 24, 2016, advising that Rupert Baptiste had filed a Complaint against
  Local 9, alleging failure to reimburse contributions made to the "Union PACs." To the best of
  my knowledge, the March 24, 2016 notice from the Federal Election Commission is the first
  notice Local 9 or anyone on its behalf received regarding a specific request by Mr. Baptiste for
  reimbursement of these contributions.
- The supporting documentation accompanying Mr. Baptiste's complaint included a copy of correspondence, dated September 16, 2014, purportedly from Mr. Baptiste to me. I never

received nor had I ever seen this correspondence until receipt of the Federal Election Commission's notification in March 2016.

4. Attached hereto are true and accurate copies of my March 29, 2016 response to Mr. Baptiste's March 2016 complaint filed with the Federal Election Commission and Local 9's file records submitted with that response.

I hereby certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements made by me are willfully false, I am subject to punishment.

DATED: September 2, 2016

Michael Maloney,

Business Manager, Local 9

## PLUMBERS AND PIPEFITTERS LOCAL UNION NO. 9



## CENTRAL NEW JERSEY AFL-CIO

2 Iron Ore Road at Route 33, Englishtown, NJ 07726 Telephone: (732) 792-0999 • Fax: (732) 792-1999 Website: www.ualocal9.org



BUSINESS MANAGER

Michael K. Maloney Secretary-Treasurer **BUSINESS AGENTS** 

Charles F. Whalen III, Assistant Business Manager Nicholas M. Oberto John E. Hoey, Jr. Robert A. Dill Michael A. Tranberg Orlando R. Candelori, Air Conditioning Division **ORGANIZERS** 

Dean Feasel William K. Graybush

Certified No: 7099 3400 0009 9212 0250

March 29, 2016

Federal Election Commission
Office of Complaints Examination
And Legal Administration
Ms. Donna Rawls Paralegal
999 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20436

Dear Ms. Rawis:

As per our conversation on Tuesday March 29, 2016 regarding local 9 member Rupert Baptiste enclosed you will find in chronological order Local 9's records of Mr. Baptiste. In your packet dated March 24, 2016 included a letter dated September 16, 2014 from Mr. Baptiste addressed to me that he was requesting a refunds from Local 9's Political Action Committee (PAC) and Industry Advancement Fund (IAF). It should be noted that Local 9 never received that letter and I would swear under oath to that. This letter was not certified as you can tell. Since his transfer-from another union (Local 488) in 1997 and Local 9 started keeping records in his file as included lawsuits, grievances, complaints, member in good standing letters etc. One can only "speculate" through out the years Mr. Baptiste has what appear to be financial issues. I cannot prove that nor is it any of our business unless Local 9 has been brought into several legal and personal issues, which has been the case through out the years. Local 9 also wants to be crystal clear that any member who has opted out of their voluntary contributions to the aforementioned funds in writing to the local were reimbursed. I have told Mr. Baptiste this on several occasions and he indicated that he understood this but apparently he did not: I have also enclosed Local 9's CBA for your convenience.

Sincerely yours,

Michael Maloney

Business Manager, Financial Secretary

#### DELL'TTALIA & SANTOLA

ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW

18 TYINY GALEPTO PLAZA ORANGE, NEW FERSEY 07050 Telephone (975) 572 3000 Telephone (973) 672-8215

DASBARRISTERS@GMARLCOM IOENTDELL@AOL COM JOLS LIVINGSTON AVENUE, SUITE 100 "LIVINGSTON, NEW IERSEY 07039 Teksphone (973) 535-5811 Felcopier (913) 672-8215

REPLY TO ORANGE N!

February 3, 2016

via regular and certified mail return receipt requested Furino & Sons, Inc. 66 Columbia Road Branchburg, New Jersey 08876

RE: RUPERT BAPTISTE

Dear Sir/Madam:

JOHN P. DELL TEALIA, ESQ.

STACY A. SANTOLA, ESQ.

Please be advised that this office represents Rupert Baptiste with regard to certain funds that have been deducted from his paycheck over the last 2 years. Attached hereto is his spreadsheet reflecting the amount actually deducted for the years 2014 and 2015. I am also attaching a copy of a letter dated September 16, 2014, wherein Mr. Baptiste indicated that he never provided you with authorization for these deductions and requested a refund regarding same. It is my understanding that these monies continue to be deducted from his check. If you believe you have authorization to deduct these funds, please provide me with evidence of same.

By my calculations, Mr. Baptiste is currently entitled to a total refund of \$7,702.70, based upon deductions taken for the years 2014 and 2015.

I would appreciate your response at your earliest opportunity.

Very truly yours,

DELLITALIA & SANTOLA

BY: STACY A. SANTOLA, ESQ.

SASbn enclosures

cc: Rupert Baptiste

Union, NJ 07083

Local 9 Plumbers & Pipefitters 2 Iron Ore Rd. rt. 33 Englishtown, NJ 07726

Attn: Michael Maloney

RE: 2014 and 2015 Volunteer Funds Refund

Mike,

Here are my hours and break down for these funds.

2014 = 2,516 Hours Target = \$2,516.00 PAC = \$754.80 Benevolent = \$880.60

**2015** = 2,089 Hours Target = \$2,089.00 PAC = \$731.15 Benevolent = \$731.15

Thank You,

Rupert Baptiste

### RECEIVED FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

2016 MAR -7 AM 9: 13

Rupert Baptiste

Union NJ 07083

February 20, 2016

OFFICE OF GENERAL

Office of General Counsel Federal Election Commission 999 E Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20463 MUR#

To Whom It May Concern:

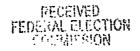
I, Rupert Baptiste, am writing to file a complaint against Michael Maloney and the Local 9 Union due to the violation of the Deduction of wages for Union PAC's, which states that any contributions made to PACs must be voluntarily given. They have been automatically deducting over \$7,000 from my paycheck without my authorization or offering. Other members have gone to the Union and requested their money be returned and they have been successful, however when I went to get my money reimbursed they refused to do so or have not responded to my letter. I have included a letter sent to Mr. Maloney as well as my pay stubs showing the amount of money taken out from my paychecks.

Fraternally yours,

Rupert Baptiste

**Notary Public** 

Shanlce Lawrence Notary Public New Jersey My Commission Expires 8-13-19 No. 2449290



2016 4/R 21 PM 2: 40

Rupert Baptiste

Union NI 07083

OFFICE OF GENERAL

February 20, 2016

Office of General Counsel Federal Election Commission 999 E Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20463

Cc: U.S. Department of Labor Office of Inspector General 200 Constitution Ave N.W. Rm S-5506 Washington, D.C. 20210 MUR # 7028

To Whom It May Concern:

I, Rupert Baptiste, am writing to file a complaint against Michael Maloney and the Local 9 Union due to the violation of the Deduction of wages for Union PAC's, which states that any contributions made to PACs must be voluntarily given. They have been automatically deducting over \$20000 from my paycheck without my authorization or offering. Other members have gone to the Union and requested their money be returned and they have been successful, however when I went to get my money reimbursed they refused to do so or have not responded to my letter. I have included a letter sent to Mr. Maloney as well as my pay stubs showing the amount of money taken out from my paychecks.

Fragernally yours,

Rupert Baptiste

©hanlou Lawrenco Notary Public New Jersey My Commission Expires 8-13-19 No. 2449290 Notary Public

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this <u>lle</u> day of <u>March</u>, 20 <u>lle</u>.